

Course 276: Level Measurement

Covers principles governing various methods of measuring level. Explains operation of conductive, capacitive, resistive, ultrasonic, and photoelectric devices. Compares the operation of several kinds of pressure-head instruments. Explains the measurement of solids by ultrasonic, microwave, radiation, and other methods. Discusses several special-application devices for both continuous and point level measurement.

TPC Training is accredited by IACET to offer **0.5 CEU** for this program.

**Lesson 1: Principles of Level Measurement***Topics*

Measuring Liquid Level; Surface-Sensing Gauges; Storage-Tank Gauges; Sight Glasses; Magnetic Gauges; Buoyancy; Displacer Gauges; Level Switches; Mercury Level Switches; Level Switches with Multiple Displacers; Magnetic Reed Switches

Objectives

- Define datum point, and contrast direct and indirect level measurement.
- Describe the main kinds of surface-sensing gauges.
- Define buoyant force and explain how it is used in displacer gauges to measure liquid level.
- Describe maintenance procedures for float devices, displacer gauges, and sight glasses.
- Compare the use of sight glasses, mercury level switches, and magnetic reed switches.

Lesson 2: Electrical Instruments*Topics*

Conductivity and Liquid Level; Using Capacitance to Measure Level; Capacitance Probes; Capacitance Probe Electronics; Zero and Span Adjustments; Ultrasonic Level Detectors; Resistance Level Detectors; Photoelectric Level Detectors; Point Level Detection

Objectives

- Differentiate between continuous and point level measurements, and between direct and indirect level measurement.
- Describe the operation of a conductance probe in a conducting liquid.
- Describe the operation of a capacitance probe in a dielectric liquid.
- Explain the operation of ultrasonic, resistance, and photoelectric level sensors.
- Describe conductance point level probes, capacitance point level probes, and ultrasonic point level detectors.

Lesson 3: Pressure Head Instruments*Topics*

Hydrostatic Pressure; Relative Density (Specific Gravity); Pressurized Fluids; Pressure Head; Pressure Head Instrumentation; Air Bellows; Air Purge Systems; Liquid Purge Systems; Force-Balance Diaphragm Systems; Differential Pressure Transmitters; Density Measurement; Safety

Objectives

- Define hydrostatic pressure and explain how it is calculated by means of the relative density (specific gravity) of a liquid in a tank.
- Discuss the relationship between pressure head and the location of the pressure (level) indicator.
- Compare the air bellows and air purge systems and discuss advantages for each.
- Explain how a force-balance diaphragm system works.
- Describe the operation of a differential pressure transmitter and explain how it is used to measure level and density.

Lesson 4: Solid Level Measurement*Topics*

Using Weight to Determine Level; Ultrasonic Solid Level Measurement; Microwave Solid Level Measurement; Ultrasonic and Microwave Solid Level Detectors; Radiation Level Detectors; Capacitance and Resistance Probes; Bob-and-Cable Tension Method; Point Level Detection; Controlling Level within a Band

Objectives

- List the data needed to compute the level of a bulk solid in a bin.
- Describe and compare the operation of wire strain gauges and semiconductor strain gauges.
- Compare the advantages and disadvantages of ultrasonic and microwave level measuring methods.
- Discuss the operation of capacitance probes, resistance probes, and bob-and-cable units in measuring bulk solids.
- Describe how diaphragm switches and tilt switches are used for point level detection in automatic bin fillers.
- Discuss the use of rotating paddle detectors in controlling level within a band.

Lesson 5: Other Level Measurement Instruments*Topics*

Radiation Level Detectors; Ionization Radiation Sensors; Semiconductor Radiation Sensors; Photoelectric Radiation Sensors; Infrared Level Detectors; Measuring Interface Levels; Range Suppression and Elevation; Selection of Level Measurement Equipment; Calculation of Contents

Objectives

- Explain how radiation level detectors are used for both continuous and point level measurement.
- Describe the operation of ionization radiation sensors, semiconductor radiation sensors, and scintillation counters.
- Discuss the operation of an infrared point level detector.
- Describe several methods of measuring interface levels.
- Explain how range suppression and range elevation are used.
- Discuss the important considerations in equipment selection.